



Lord Methuen and the Labourer

A numerously attended meeting of the members of the local branch of the Labourers' Federal Union has just been held at Corsham. Mr. Frederick Evans, secretary of the Railway Servants' Union presided. Many farmers and tradesmen were present. The object of the meeting was to protest against certain language used by Lord Methuen, at a recent dinner, in condemnation of labourers' unions and agitators. Mr. Baster, of Bath, and the chairman addressed the meeting, urging that it was the indisputable right of every Englishman to combine with others. Mr. Yeates delivered an address, dealing generally with the question, and stating that he had by letter challenged Lord Methuen to attend the meeting, but he did not come. The following resolutions were moved by labourers and unanimously carried:- "That having heard Lord Methuen's opinions of the leaders of this great movement amongst the labourers of the country, and his condemnations of their principles, and having been challenged to meet them according to his own instructions to those to whom he spoke, and failing to do that which he had instructed others to do, we consider that he has failed to act in accordance with his own published opinion, and deeply regret the absence of consistency on his part." "That the agricultural labourers' movement is deserving the hearty support of all labourers in the district."

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